

Dunn Field Remedial Investigation Completed

The drinking water is safe, and most areas of Dunn Field are safe for current and future workers, according to the Remedial Investigation (RI) recently completed for Dunn Field. The RI marks an important step forward in the Memphis Depot environmental cleanup program.

The RI represents the third step in the seven-step process regulated by the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA). Before remedial design and cleanup work begins at Dunn Field, the RI must be reviewed by the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

The nature and extent section of the RI identifies the quantity and location of environmental impacts at Dunn Field. This information was presented at the

February 2002 Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) meeting, with the following general conclusions:

- Environmental conditions on Dunn Field are defined and can be cleaned up using available technologies.
- Past Depot activities have not affected the drinking water aquifer (Memphis Sand).
- Most areas of Dunn Field are safe for current and future workers.
- Tests of surface water and sediments on Dunn Field show no unacceptable risks.

Through the nature and extent investigation, several compounds were identified as Chemicals of Potential Concern (COPCs). These are substances detected in the environment, which may be higher than background levels (naturally occurring or consistent with

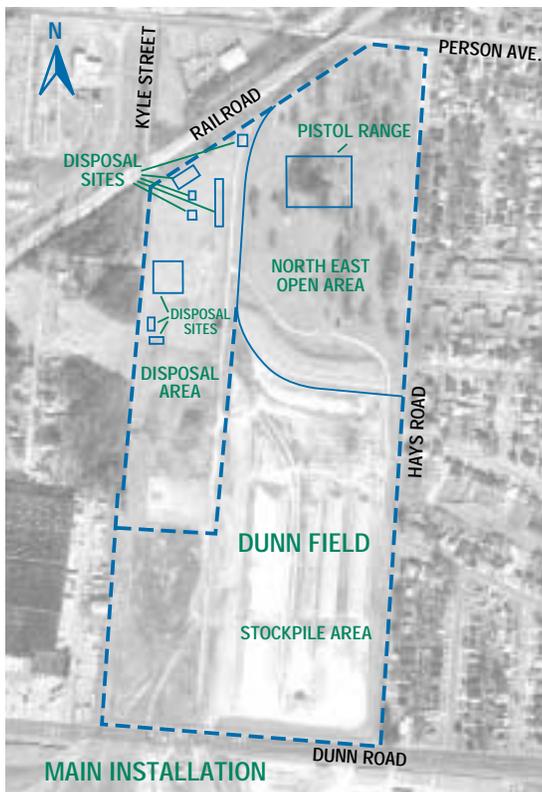
environmental conditions elsewhere in the Memphis area). COPCs are studied further to determine if they present any unacceptable risks.

The next stage of the RI is the Risk Assessment (RA), which evaluates the potential risks to human health and the environment from environmental conditions at Dunn Field. A summary of the RA was presented at the April 18, 2002, RAB meeting.

STUDY AREAS

For the RI, Dunn Field was divided into three land areas.

The fourth study area was Groundwater, beneath Dunn Field and the surrounding areas.



The Memphis RAB: Working for you!

The Memphis Restoration Advisory Board meets regularly to review proposed plans and actions and provide input on the environmental cleanup program at the Depot. The RAB consists of 13 volunteer community members, five civic representatives, and three Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Cleanup Team (BCT) members.

RAB meetings are open to all community members. They are usually held the third Thursday of the month at the South Memphis Senior Citizens Center, located at 1620 Marjorie Street off Person.

There will be no RAB meeting in May 2002. Watch the Commercial Appeal, Tri-State Defender or Silver Star News for the date and presentation topics for the next RAB meeting.

DISPOSAL AREA

The Disposal Area consists of approximately 14 acres in the northwest section of Dunn Field, west of the railroad tracks. It was used as a landfill for construction debris, maintenance shop waste, paints, and other types of waste.

COPCs in the soil that were evaluated in the Risk Assessment include:

- Aluminum, antimony, lead and total chromium that are naturally occurring metals and slightly higher than background levels, and arsenic and thallium that are from the past pesticide and rodenticide use;
- PAHs (Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons) associated with asphalt and railroad tracks;
- Pesticide (dieldrin) from past application;